

July 22, 2014

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate

Dear Leaders Reid and McConnell:

On behalf of the more than 145,000 members of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), we urge you to vote in favor of the Carper-Corker-Boxer amendment being offered to H.R. 5021, "The Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014." The amendment would extend the current federal surface transportation program and provide funding assistance until December 19, 2014. Congress must act now or the Highway Account of the federal Highway Trust Fund will become insolvent this August. This means a reduction in payments to state Departments of Transportation (DOTs), delays in projects, and weeks or months of the construction season lost. Without these needed funds, future improvements cannot be made, and quality of life for your constituents and local businesses will suffer.

Finding a short-term federal Highway Trust Fund (HTF) solution now will provide the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress adequate time to debate a longer-term, more sustainable funding solution following the August district work-period.

ASCE gave the nation's infrastructure a grade of D+ in our 2013 Report Card for America's Infrastructure. Roads received a grade of D, bridges received a C+, and transit received a D. As these grades demonstrate, there is still much work to do to provide safe, reliable and efficient transportation options for your constituents. It is important to remember that Americans are already paying for the cost of our nation's D+ infrastructure. Specifically, congested roads cost an estimated \$101 billion per year in wasted time and fuel, and driving on poor roads costs motorists an average of \$324 per year in vehicle repair and operating costs.

ASCE urges you vote in favor of the Carper-Corker-Boxer amendment that would temporarily protect the HTF as well as the, "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act" (MAP-21) policy items that were overwhelmingly approved by the full Senate in 2012. Thank you in advance for your support on this urgent matter.

If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Brian Pallasch, Managing Director, Government Relations and Infrastructure Initiatives, at 202-789-7842 or [bpallasch@asce.org](mailto:bpallasch@asce.org).

Sincerely,



Randall (Randy) S. Over, P.E., F.ASCE  
2014 ASCE President

CC: Members of the United States Senate